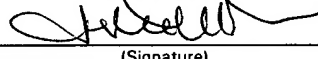


A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: YGUERABIDE et al.  
 Title: ANALYTE ASSAY USING  
 PARTICULATE LABELS  
 Appl. No.: Unassigned  
 Filing Date: Herewith  
 Examiner: Unassigned  
 Art Unit: Unassigned

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
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Jodie Price	
(Printed Name)	
	
(Signature)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
 Box Patent Application  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Delete the first paragraph on Page 1, and insert the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of Yguerabide et al., U.S. Application 08/953,713, filed October 17, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of Yguerabide et al., U.S. Application 08/844,217, filed April 18, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,214,560, which claims the benefit of Yguerabide et al., U.S. Provisional Application 60/016,383, filed April 25, 1996, all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties, including drawings.